

(1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

7-205.

(b) The committee shall study, recommend, and approve all procedures for reclamation, conservation, and revegetation of any area affected by open-pit mining within the State. The measures include, but are not limited to, backfilling and grading, restoration of plant cover, prevention of erosion, prevention of the creation of acid water, and any other action which is conducive to the conservation and best utilization of the natural resources of Maryland. The committee shall review all mining and reclamation plans[,] AND progress reports[, and final reports]. It also shall set the amount of any revegetation bond. The committee may inspect or have inspected any open-pit mining operation at any time in order to determine land reclamation, conservation, and revegetation conditions. It shall establish plans and methods of procedure as well as practical guidelines for prompt and adequate reclamation, conservation, and revegetation of all lands disturbed by open-pit mining of bituminous coal within the State. These plans, methods of procedure, and practical guidelines shall be submitted to the Bureau. Finally, the committee shall review the strip mining laws of the State to assure compliance with the spirit of the subtitle dealing with strip mining.

7-504.

(a) A person may not [mine coal by the] CONDUCT open-pit mining [method] as an operator within the State without [first obtaining] a CURRENTLY VALID license from the Department. Each application for a license as an open-pit mining operator shall be made in writing to the Department, on a form the Department furnishes and accompanied by a \$200 fee. The application shall contain information concerning the applicant as required by the Department. In the case of an application submitted by a corporation, partnership, or association, the application shall contain information concerning officers, directors, and principal owners, as the Department requires. Every person licensed as an open-pit mining operator shall renew his license annually and pay a \$10 renewal fee. The application for renewal of a license as an open-pit mining operator shall be made on or before January 1 of the next succeeding year.

7-505.